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C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAMA 001323

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/12/2015

TAGS: [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [MNUC](#) [BA](#)

SUBJECT: BAHRAIN: COMBATING WMD PROLIFERATION VIA
FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE UNITS

REF: STATE 158275

Classified by DCM Susan L. Ziadeh for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

(C) Pol/Econ chief September 11 delivered reftel demarche and non-papers concerning combating WMD proliferation via financial intelligence units to MFA Director for International Organization Affairs Ghassan Shaikho. Shaikho was thankful for the update on E.O.13382. He noted, however, that blocking or freezing assets of WMD proliferators was different from blocking assets of terrorism financiers because there was no Security Council resolution directly addressing this issue. He pledged to review the information carefully and pass it to relevant ministries, including the Ministry of Interior, Finance Ministry, Bahrain Monetary Agency, Bahrain National Security Agency, and the Bahrain Defense Force. (Note: A Treasury/OFAC delegation will be in Bahrain September 14-15 and may have opportunities to discuss the issue further with senior officials.)

MONROE